GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4247
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000
NOAP, NFBS AND NMBS IN BIHAR
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted by the Operation Black Board in Bihar to assessthe actual achievements made under National Old Age Pension Scheme, National Family Benefit Scheme and National Maternity Benefit Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the level of actual achievements made in respect of those schemes was lower in comparison to other States ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the low level of achievements under these schemes in Bihar; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A . RAJA.)

(a): No, Sir. As far as this Ministry is aware, no study on National Social Assistance Programme(NSAP) has ever beenconducted in Bihar by `Operation Black Board`.An Evaluation Study on NSAP was, however, conducted in 8 States including Bihar in 1998 by a New Delhi based research organisation, namely, M/s Operation Research Group (ORG).

(b)&(c): The ORG Report shows that out of the 8 States covered, the performance of Bihar under National Old Age Pension Scheme(NOAPS) was comparatively much better than Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra and West BengalSimilarly, the performance of Bihar in the case of National Family Benefit Scheme(NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme(NMBS) was much better tha that of some other States like Kerala and Maharasthra etc. The statement on physical achievement (State-wise) for 1997-98 indicated in the ORG Report is as the following:-

Statement on physical achievement (State-wise) for1997-98 indicated in the Report of the Operation Research Group on Evaluation of NSAP in selected States

STATE	Percentage achievement (Physical)-1997-98		
	NOAPS	NFBS	NMBS
Andhra Pradesh	100.00	120.10	120.00
Bihar	90.44	36.17	36.42
Gujarat	65.01	4.51	9.84
Kerala	42.92	69.77	14.19
Madhya Pradesh	130.00	79.00	55.00
Maharastra	20.40	20.10	11.20
Orissa	98.80	108.00	10.70
West Bengal	87.00	38.00	46.00

The lagging performance of Bihar in the earlier years may be ascribed to teething problems and the need to orient State Government officials and ensure inter-departmental coordination etc. for grounding the scheme.

(d): Steps taken for further improvement in performance include constant liaison with the State Nodal Secretary on NSAP who in turn ensures appropriate implementation of the Schemes in Bihar. Appropriate steps have also been taken to create awareness among all concerned about the NSAP Schemes and the procedure involved in obtaining benefits undereach of the three Schemes. To ensure efficient implementation, the Government have also taken steps for simplification of procedure in releasing Central funds and disbursement of assistance to the beneficiaries. Subsequent to the adoption of these steps, the performance of Bihar has further improved particularly so in respect of NFBS and NMBSduring the financial year ending 31st March, 2000 in regard to which the State was lagging behind earlier. The percentage achievement in terms of releases under NOAPS, NFBSand NMBS is as 83.77, 96.01 and 84.33 respectively.